

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

**Status of Claims:**

Claims 13 and 14 are currently being added.

Claims 1, 6 and 10 are currently being amended. Support for these claim amendments made by found on page 10, line 26 to page 11, line 9 of the specification.

Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 12 are currently being canceled.

This amendment and reply amends, adds and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending, adding and canceling the claims as set forth above, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10 and 13-14 are now pending in this application.

**Claim Rejections – Prior Art:**

In the Office Action, claims 1-5 and 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0180822 to Aritomi; and claims 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aritomi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,894,793 to Roosen et al. These rejections are traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

The present invention according to independent claim 1 recites that test printing is carried on a special sheet other than a regular sheet, whereby the special sheet may be a tab sheet. Further, in the test printing, the width of tab and the amount of displacement of image can be changed by entering the desired data. In other words, according to the present invention, the printing position with respect to the tab can be adjusted while monitoring the actual printing on a tab sheet.

By contrast, Aritomi discloses a technique of performing test printing for a tab sheet on a plain sheet as a test. (See paragraph [0068] of Aritomi.) In other words, in Aritomi, test printing for a tab sheet is not performed on an actual tab sheet. For this reason, when actually

printing on a tab sheet with reference to a test print, the image may be displaced from where it should be.

In the present invention, a special printing is carried out on a corresponding special sheet as a test, and therefore the image of the test printing is not displaced from the image printed on the actual special sheet.

Accordingly, presently pending independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Aritomi.

Turning now to Roosen, that reference discloses a technique of displaying waiting print jobs; however Roosen makes no mention of printing on a special sheet such as a tab sheet. That is, Roosen does not disclose or suggest a test printing carried out on a special sheet such as a tab sheet.

Accordingly, presently pending independent 1 is patentable over the combined teachings of Aritomi and Roosen.

Independent claims 6 and 10 have been amended to recite a “special sheet”, whereby, as mentioned above, neither Aritomi nor Roosen teaches the test printing of a special sheet in the manner recited in those claims.

**New Claims:**

New claims 13 and 14 have been added to recite additional features of the present invention that provide an additional basis of patentability for those claims, beyond the reasons given above for their base claim.

**Conclusion:**

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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